

Remarks

Prior to this Amendment and Response, claims 2-20 were pending in the Application. Herein, claim 12 was amended, and no claims were cancelled or added. Therefore, upon entry of the Amendment, claims 2-20 will remain pending in the Application. Entry of this Amendment, reconsideration, and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

In paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 2, 3, 5-6, and 10-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by *Su* (U.S. Patent No. 6,272,322). Applicants respectfully traverse. The present invention is directed to an improved apparatus for selectively connecting two WLAN devices, the apparatus including a variable attenuator and a test controller configured in a certain manner. In accordance with the present invention, the first WLAN device is operable to generate a signal having parameters selected by the test controller. The test controller is also operable to select the attenuation level used by the variable attenuator to attenuate the signal generated by the first WLAN device and applied at the input port of the variable attenuator. The attenuated signal is applied to the output port of the variable attenuator, which is connected to the second WLAN device. Note that either the first WLAN device or the second WLAN device may be the device under test (as in claims 10 and 15, respectively).

Su, in contrast, discloses a pair of transceivers operable to transmit a pair of signals in opposite directions to calculate the relationships between the transmit path gains and receive path gains (*Abstract*). *Su* lacks the variable attenuator and test controller as claimed in the present invention. Applicants note that the block “PI” (Fig. 3 of *Su*) is in fact indicated to be “unknown” (Fig. 3). Although apparently a step attenuator, PI is not activated during the loop back test or path loss calibration (col. 5, line 55 to col. 6, line 6). In any event, *Su* does not teach or suggest controlling the attenuation of PI using a test controller. Moreover, there is no indication that the “processing logic” of *Su* (suggested in the Office Action as meeting the test controller

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element of the claimed invention) has any influence on "unknown attenuation PI" (or any other calibration-related attenuation or attenuator).

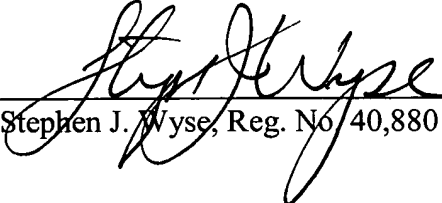
Applicants respectfully suggest that for the reasons set forth above, independent claims 10 and 15 are distinguishable from the cited prior art, as are claims 2, 3, 5-6, and 11-14 and 16-20 that depend from them, and therefore this ground for rejection has been overcome.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

In paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 4 and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by or, in the alternative, being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over *Su*. In response, Applicants note that claims 4 and 7-9 now depend indirectly from claim 10, which has been indicated to contain allowable subject matter. For this reason, Applicants respectfully suggest that this ground for rejection has been overcome and that claims 4 and 4-9 are also now in condition for allowance.

In light of the foregoing, all of the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, examination and allowance of pending claims 2-20 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

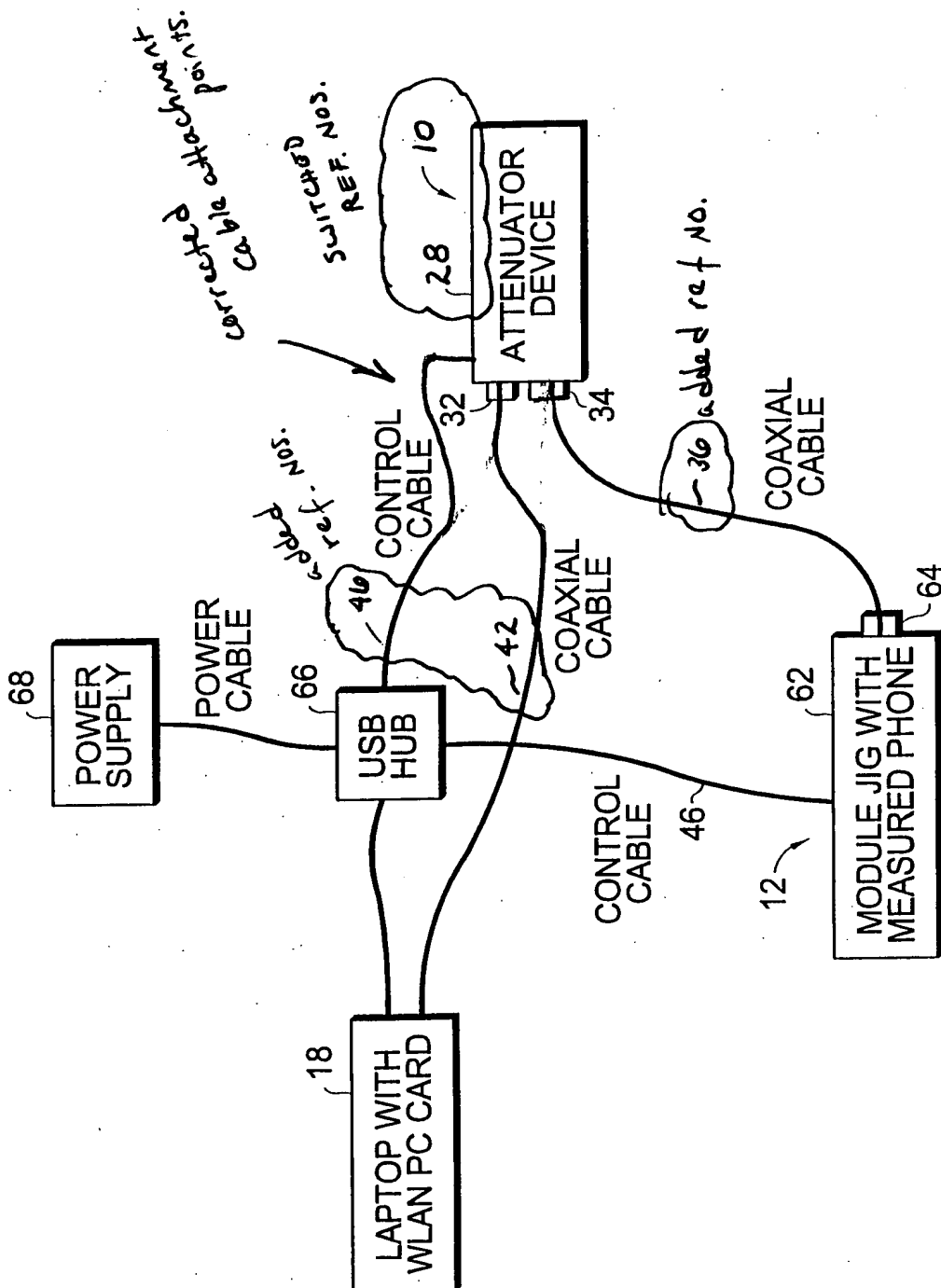


FIG. 2

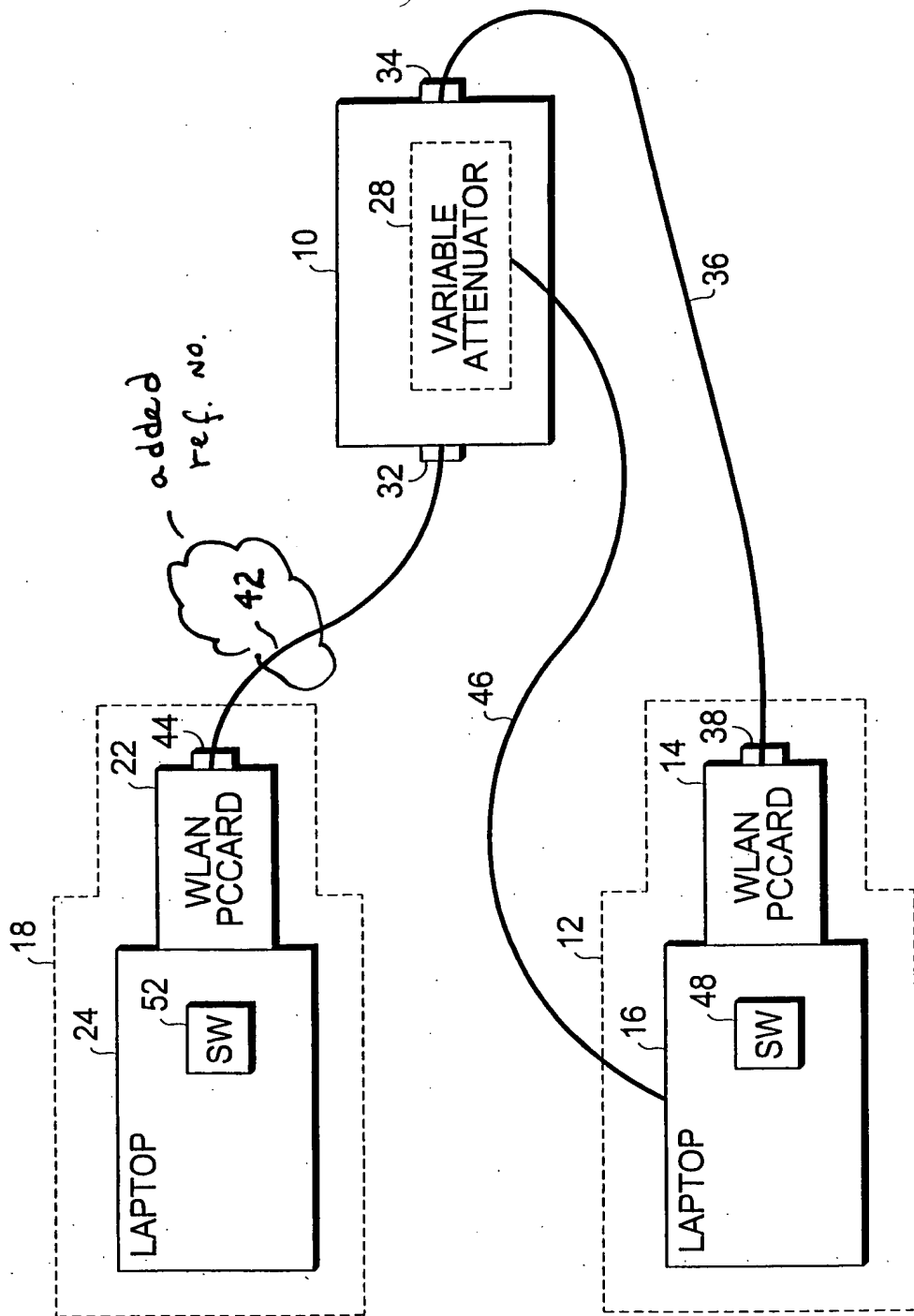


FIG. 1